

Stay safe and warm with outage alerts

Sign up for outage alerts from NorthWestern Energy to be notified via email or text when your power is out and when it is restored.

You can also sign up for billing and payment notifications and more.

To set your notification preferences, login to My Energy Account and select “Notifications” from the “settings” menu. If you don’t have My Energy Account, sign up today! It’s free and easy! Visit NorthWesternEnergy.com and click “Register for My Energy Account.”



Give the Gift of Energy this year

Looking for the perfect holiday gift? Consider a Gift of Energy gift certificate from NorthWestern Energy.

Whether it’s an elderly relative on a fixed income, a child away at college, a friend or business in need, a Gift of Energy is a great way to show you care.

Learn more at NorthWesternEnergy.com/GiftOfEnergy.

Help is available

If you’re concerned about paying your bill, reach out to us right away. We have billing and payment options that can help. We can also help determine if you qualify for assistance from various government and nonprofit programs. Call Us: 7 a.m. - 6 p.m., Monday through Friday at 800-245-6977.

Keep your gas meter clear of snow and ice

Just like scraping off your car or shoveling your sidewalks, it’s important to take care of your gas meter after it snows. Remember:

- Allowing snow and ice to build up on your natural gas meter, or fall from the roof above your meter, can lead to dangerous damage.
- Your natural gas meter’s regulator vent must always be clear so the flow of natural gas into the home can be regulated properly.
- Allowing a large amount of snow to pile up on a meter can lead to pipes breaking, causing dangerous gas leaks.
- After every snow, be sure to clear off your gas meter gently using your hands or a broom. Never use a shovel on the meter. Also, take a walk around your property and ensure all vents are clear of snow or ice.
- Clear a path to your gas and electric meter in case we need to access them in an emergency.
- If you rely on a snow removal company to clear your property, be sure they are also safely clearing snow and ice from your meter, and a path to your meter. If you have a seasonal property or are away on vacation, ask someone to check your natural gas meter and vents, especially after a significant storm.



Ways to save on energy use this winter

Cold weather can make a major impact on your energy bill. You can save money on your monthly bill with these energy efficiency tips:

- 1. Know what impacts your energy use:** Start by comparing your energy usage from month to month, or year to year, on your billing statement.
- 2. Evaluate your insulation levels:** Adding insulation will help keep your home warm in the winter and cool in the summer. Note: In the winter, cold floors and walls are signs more insulation is needed.
- 3. Find and seal air leaks:** Do you see daylight peeking around your door or window frame or feel drafts around plumbing, ducting, recessed lighting, outlets and light switches? If so, you have air leaks. Seal the air leak by using insulating foam, caulk, weather strips, door sweeps or foam gaskets.
- 4. Utilize a programmable or smart thermostat:** Install a programmable thermostat that automatically adjusts your heat. Change your thermostat setting during the heating season to the lowest comfortable setting, which is 68°F for most people during the day. At night, turn your thermostat back 7-10 degrees.
- 5. Install an outdoor-rated timer for your engine block heater:** Almost all engines need to be warmed for only about an hour.
- 6. Use your window treatments:** Close your curtains at night to reduce heat loss but open the curtains on south-facing windows during the day, so the sun’s warmth can help heat your house.

Learn more and get more energy-saving tips at NorthWesternEnergy.com/waystosave.

The Outlet

Poem by Lori Nelson, Community Relations Specialist

You unplug your old green tractor,
from the outlet on the wall.
It’s time to feed your cattle,
in the cold, you hear them bawl.

You don’t give it too much thought,
when it starts with a roar;
Electricity is something,
there’s a million uses for.

Next, checking on the water,
that your cows drink as they please,
From the automatic trough,
and you pray it didn’t freeze.

But it is plugged in too,
electric heat has kept it warm.
It should be able to withstand,
this winter’s coldest storm.

The lethal grip of bitter cold,
can kill a newborn calf.
Sometimes human intervention,
must be made on their behalf.

A heat lamp’s amber glow,
slaps the icy hand away.
As long as the power’s on,
it won’t steal any calves today!

But your power doesn’t come,
from an outlet on the wall.
It’s made possible by workers,
that are giving their all.

From those working in the office,
to those who maintain powerlines,
And so many countless others,
whose efforts all combine.

These are the men and women
that bring light and warmth to you.
You don’t have to look too far,
to see the work they do.

So when you plug your tractor in,
to make sure it will start,
spare a thought for the vast system,
of which that outlet is part.